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# MAGAZINE.

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ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST, 1892.

{ Volume 15, No. 10.  
New Series. }



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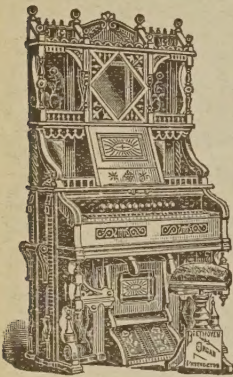
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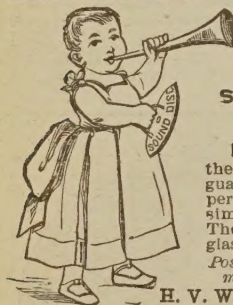




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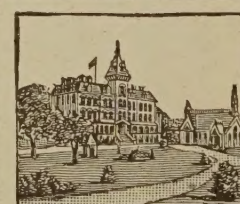
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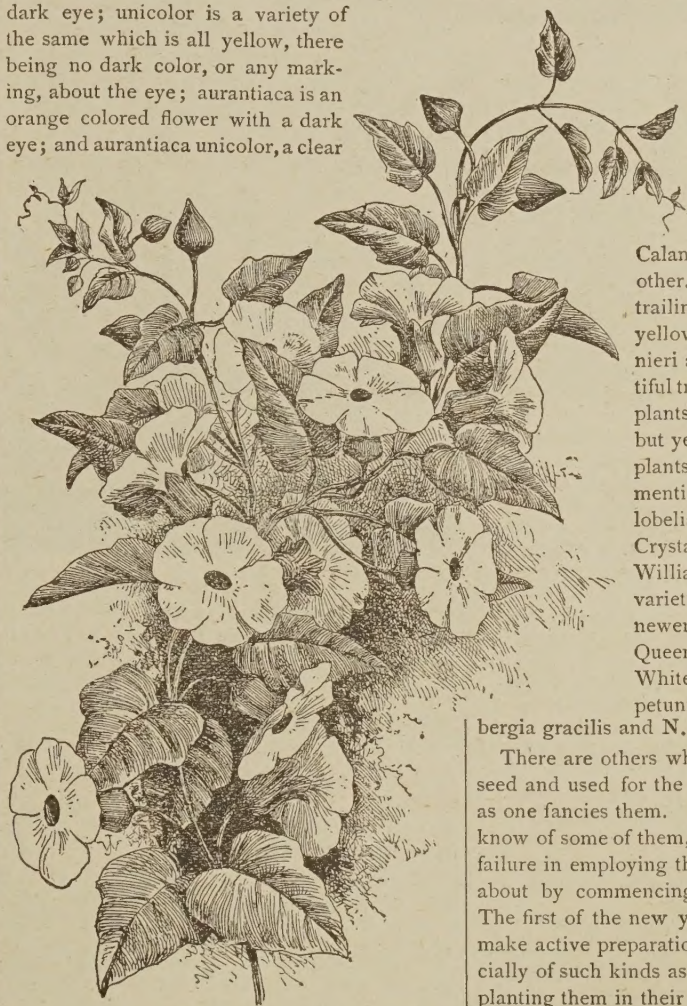
## California's May Day.

Under the shade of the willow—under the woodbine gay,  
With a full blooming Cherokee rose climbing the wall o'er the way,  
Looking up through the fluttering leaves, to the lofty blue dome of the sky,  
Socially chatting together, sit gentle Hattie and I.  
'Tis the first day of May in the morning—California's May at her best;  
Arrayed in the robings of summer, she steps to the front, fully dressed;  
The tints of her radiant garments outrival the tints of the sky,  
And the perfume and bloom of her presence lead captive the nose and the eye.  
Up from the valleys of Southland come the fresh breezes of morn,  
Over the orange in blossom, over the rustling corn;  
Over the hills of the inland, zephyrs still linger and play;  
And the freshened breeze from the ocean tempers the heat of the day.  
Geraniums tower to the windows, the trailing verbenas run wild—  
The lips of the fresh calla lily are tempting as those of a child;  
The earth is a bower of beauty—displaying its best at all hours;  
And each maiden's first morning duty is filling her vase with fresh flowers.  
Meantime the glad season advances—new glories unfolding each day,  
With millions of wild flowers taking the place of those passing away,  
The rose and the ripening berry, with pansies and hyacinths vie;  
The red is out full on the cherry, the bloom is out full on the rye.  
The storms have gone back to the ocean—the bellowing winds are at rest,  
The elements, free from commotion, are sleeping on earth's verdant breast;  
No tempest shall rise to awake them, no cyclones rush over the plain,  
No blizzards or thunder storms shake them, no hail shall be mixed with the rain.  
But Hattie says, raising her finger, with dreamy eyes bent far away,  
"O, Psyche! are these scenes real? and is this the first day of May?  
Or is it a picture ideal of Fancy's, to lead us astray,  
And these the Hesperian gardens through which we are roaming today?  
Are yonder the Santa Cruz mountains, aglow with the opening day?  
Or are they the blue hills of Colchis, by the mystical sea far away?  
That famous old Colchis of story, in the ballads of mythical Greece—  
Is it three thousand years since Jason went there for the golden fleece?  
Or has Time's great dial swung backward, are all of our reckonings wrong?  
Are yonder the haunts of the Muses? Is Homer still singing his song?  
Are those the famed Hellicon fountains, that gush from those hills on the west?  
Is yonder blue sea the Ægean, are yonder the Isles of the Blest?"  
Then, to pacify Hattie, I tell her the scene is all real today;  
That the myths and the fancies of dreamland are rapidly passing away;  
That this is the true age of reason, and though California's May  
Is fairer and richer than many, it still is the first day of May.

EBEN F. ESTABROOK.

## A Good Basket Plant.

The Thunbergia is a most satisfactory basket plant. It grows rapidly, soon comes into bloom, has handsome foliage and handsome flowers and the latter are borne freely and continuously for a long period. The plant does not become large and overgrow all others that may be planted with it, but is vigorous and showy. The flowers are about an inch and a half in diameter and vary in color according to variety, from white to buff and orange. The following kinds are some of the best: Thunbergia Bakeri, with a pure white flower; T. alata, buff with a dark eye; unicolor is a variety of the same which is all yellow, there being no dark color, or any marking, about the eye; aurantiaca is an orange colored flower with a dark eye; and aurantiaca unicolor, a clear



THUNBERGIA.

orange. One of the good things about this plant is that it can be raised from seeds in a short time, and in this way can be propagated in any numbers wanted and at slight expense. Seeds started in early spring, as in March, are ready to plant into baskets and vases in April and May; or they may be started earlier, say by the first of February, or even earlier yet if desired. When one has to supply many baskets, vases and veranda boxes with plants the number required is considerable, but they can be had at a trifling expense if the proper selection is made

of those showy kinds which can be raised from seed. For the purpose named some upright growing plants are required, but plenty of trailing or climbing plants are needed to produce a good effect. The Thunbergia will twine about the wires of a hanging basket or trail over a vase or veranda box. The tropeolums are plants of habit similar to the Thunbergia, and can as easily be raised from seed. One can raise a large stock of them in a short time, and for basket and vase work nothing is better. The maurandya is another excellent plant for the same purpose, but more delicate in size than either of

the above. The tubular flower, according to the variety, is blue, white or purple, and is very admirable. This, too, can be raised from seed. The cobœa is another of the good basket climbers that can be raised from seed.

Calampelis scabra is still another. The nolana is a pretty trailing plant with blue and yellow flowers. Torenia forneri and T. Bailloni are beautiful trailing plants. Of annual plants which are not climbers but yet good basket and vase plants, the following may be mentioned: sweet alyssum; lobelia, of erinus varieties, and Crystal Palace and Emperor William; mimulus of different varieties; mignonette of the newer varieties, such as Golden Queen, Machet, Parson's New White and the Hybrid Spiral; petunias; browallia; Nierembergia gracilis and N. frutescens.

There are others which may be raised from seed and used for the same purpose according as one fancies them. Undoubtedly our readers know of some of them, having tried them. The failure in employing these plants usually comes about by commencing too late to raise them. The first of the new year is none too soon to make active preparations for plant raising, especially of such kinds as require some size before planting them in their permanent quarters. At least everything ought to be determined upon in the month of January in regard to the kinds and varieties of seeds for basket, vase and veranda work and by the middle of February the seeds should be in the soil. It is too late when one wants to fill a basket to think about seeds for the purpose, and yet this is what numbers of people do and as certainly fail in what they undertake. As now we are commencing to think about bulb planting, so by the first of the year we should be arranging for early seed sowing. The gardener must always anticipate the seasons.



### Notes on Species of Tulips.

The instructive notes on tulips here republished from *Garden and Forest* are from the pen of Max Leichtlin and indicate the possibility of great changes in florists' tulips in the next few years. The evolution of plants in connection with gardening art will continue yet, undoubtedly, long in the future, and surprises from year to year will await the flower lover.



TULIPA DAMMANNIANA.

During the last 20 years many species of tulips have been re-introduced into cultivation, principally through the exertions of the late Dr. Regel, of St. Petersburg; they are interesting, and vary in the form and color of the flowers, and some are quite new in gardens. Tulipa Batalini produces exquisitely shaped flowers, straw-colored in one form and deep scarlet in another; the flowers are of medium size, but beautifully proportioned. T. Korolkowi marginata is an early-flowering species, with small but well-shaped, brilliantly colored flowers, the segments deep scarlet and margined by a broad band of brilliant yellow. T. Kaufmani is one of the earliest blooming species, or perhaps the earliest. There are two forms; one with flowers straw-colored inside and rose or purple outside, and the other with flowers golden yellow, blotched with bright scarlet. Bright red outside and straw-colored within are the flowers of T. Leichtlini, introduced by myself from Cashmere. This is a rather dwarf, small flowered species, but is attractive. T. Greigi, a species with large, bold, brilliantly colored flowers, is already well known. The largest flowering tulip I know is T. oculis solis, var. mervensis, a peculiarly stately plant, with scarlet flowers blotched with black. T. Turkistanica is a curiosity, producing sometimes as many as nine flowers on a single scape; they are white and yellow within and mauve without. T. Alberti, T. lanata, T. Kesselringi and T. Eichleri are well worth cultivation. In mediæval times many of these tulips were brought to Constantinople to the Caliph's garden, and from there were sent to Holland, where they were used in the production of garden hybrids and ultimately lost in their original forms.

It is evident that the next ten years will give us more new and beautiful type forms of tulips than the last 25 years have done, as importations of plants from Armenia and Persia are now far in excess of anything known before; and a vast field is now open for the systematic crossing of the different species, or of the species with the best forms of garden tulips. According to my experience with these plants, the female parent gives the form to the offspring.

### Asters and Pansies.

Last year I sent for a package of Vick's Truffaut's Pæony-Flowered Perfection seeds, and sowed them in a box of earth in March. They came up very quickly, and as soon as the little plants were large enough I transplanted them to a larger box of soil and gave them plenty

of air and sunshine. When the ground was warm enough to put them out of doors my plants were three inches high and strong and healthy. The bed was previously prepared by giving it a heavy coat of stable manure the previous fall, which was spaded in the following spring and the soil made thoroughly mellow. The aster plants were set in this bed and commenced to grow at once. The soil was often stirred and kept free from weeds, and before the plants covered the ground I gave the bed a mulching of coarse manure. The bed also received a weekly soaking with washing suds.

My care was rewarded early in August, when the asters began to bloom. Such asters I never saw before. They were truly perfection. The blossoms were at least four inches in diameter and an inch in depth, the petals incurved to give the flower a cup-like shape. The colors ranged from rich crimson and royal purple through various shades of pink and lilac to pure white. Some were striped purple and white, pink and white, etc. The beauty of the bed was spoiled all too early by a heavy rain, but not before the seed had ripened on the finest



TULIPA UNDULATIFOLIA.

specimens. A party of little girls came to my house one afternoon when the asters were in full bloom and they admired them so much that I could not find it in my heart to let them go home and leave all the coveted flowers behind them, so I told them that each might select the one which she thought the prettiest and she should have it to carry home. It was a pretty sight to see the golden, auburn and brown heads of the human flowers hovering over the asters. After a long time, and many half decisions, each announced her final choice and received her flower. There were scarcely two exactly alike, and my bed showed no diminution of beauty after picking the dozen flowers necessary to make all the little maidens happy.

My pansies were a source of delight to myself and all the children in the neighborhood. I think no flower has a greater attraction for children than a good pansy. If I gave pansies to one of the school children I was very apt to receive calls from others before night, who

would cast wishful glances at the pansy bed as they came in or went out. I like pansies because you can always pick as many as you please and still have flowers left; so the children always had their little bunch of pansies.

A LOVER OF FLOWERS.

### A Satisfactory Flower Bed.

I think I have mentioned a certain flower bed, extending along the south fence where it has an abundance of sunshine, and containing only roses and chrysanthemums; but I must speak of it again, it gives us so much pleasure this summer. The June roses which have been so magnificent during the past few weeks are gone now, but the fragrant rose potpourri still reminds us of their beauty. The everblooming roses are now at their best, and the many handsome buds which are constantly picked and given away only seem to encourage more constant blooming. The chrysanthemums have been pinched back to make them form numerous flowering branches, and they now give promise of much beauty later, when they will be loaded with blossoms until frost; it may take a decided freezing to kill them, and with a little protection many beautiful flowers may be found still smiling bravely all through November, even as far north as Philadelphia.

In selecting hardy roses don't get the budded ones, they are sure to be disappointing, they may make fine growth the first year, perhaps give you a quantity of beautiful flowers, appear to live through the winter and send up fine healthy branches the following spring, but you will be apt to find these fast growing shoots are from the roots instead of the budded portion, and the blooms will be very inferior and perhaps may not appear at all; but good named varieties of hardy roses, grown from their own roots, will be a "joy forever."

Dig the bed about two feet deep and two or three feet wide, see that the soil is well drained, thoroughly spaded and pulverized and enriched with any good fertilizer, although old, well rotted cow manure is preferred. Now plant the rose



TULIPA GREIGII.

bushes next to the fence, about three feet apart; and near the outer edge of the bed, the same distance apart, plant the chrysanthemums, one between each rose bush. An occasional hoeing about each bush to keep the soil pulverized and the weeds out, will be all the



attention they will require, unless the weather becomes very dry, and even then digging about the bushes to keep the ground from becoming hard and baked, will be better than much watering. What about the numerous insects, did you say? Oh, yes, I know there are several little pests which are particularly fond of roses and chrysanthemums, and I will tell you later how to prevent their coming; you may not be troubled with them this year as it will be late when your bed is started. Oh, no, it is not too late to purchase and plant them this summer.\* When our long bed was planted, about four dozen roses and three dozen small chrysanthemums were purchased in the early spring, a few more in June, and two dozen of each were planted as late as July 15th, and, although the roses planted late were not allowed to bloom that first summer, the chrysanthemums were all beautiful in the fall, and they were all well established before frost, and lived through the first winter with very little protection. If you want a magnificent bed, covered with bloom all next summer, and increasing in beauty every year, plant the long bed of roses and chrysanthemums now.

P. W. H.

\*It is now too late to set out small plants of chrysanthemums to bloom this season.—Ed.

#### Gold Dust.

Oh, no, this is not an advertisement of any washing powder, but a description of a very satisfactory plant. Among the many plants started from the seed last fall, for early spring blooming, nothing has proved so desirable as *Alyssum saxatile compactum*, commonly called gold dust. This popular name is very appropriate, as the plants form a perfect mass of bright yellow flowers, each cluster composed of numerous tiny golden stars. The plants grow about ten inches high, and the form of the blossoms is similar to the well known white sweet alyssum, but it is even more desirable, as it is a perennial, and having once planted the seed the plants will come up year after year, with no further trouble on your part, and I know you will be delighted with the golden yellow blossoms which will be produced in such quantities very early in the spring.

While pulverizing the soil during the dry August weather last summer, I sprinkled the seed along the edge of a long, narrow bed, near a border of blooming sweet alyssum, and did not disturb the seedlings as they began to appear; in fact, I scarcely gave them a thought until this spring, when they surprised me with a long border of brilliant yellow beauty. The fragrant white sweet alyssum began to bloom as these blossoms faded, and the bed has been outlined with a blooming border since early in April, which will continue until frost, with only these two varieties of alyssum. Be sure to include a packet of this desirable perennial when you are planning for the fall planting. A five cent packet of seed will give you many fine plants, beautiful for edging the shrub bed, walk, or wherever you wish a compact blooming border.

P. W. H.

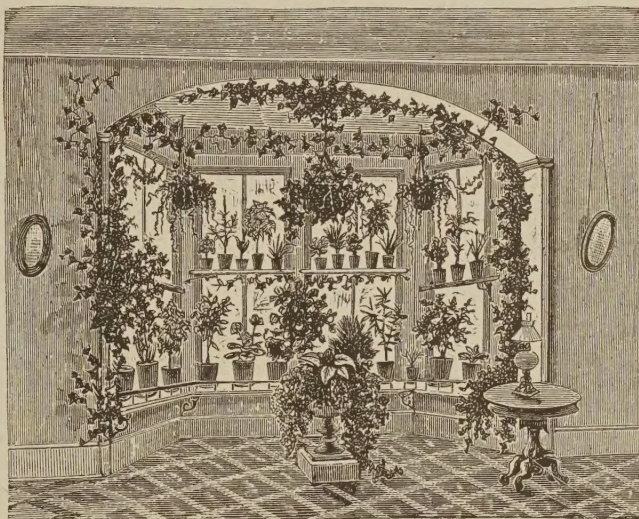
Glycerine and rose water, mixed in the proportions of one-third glycerine to two-thirds rose water, is very good for the hands.

#### Too Bad!!

The house was on a pleasant street, and was in good repair, nothing remarkable about it, and yet I exclaimed "too bad" as I saw the glass conservatory on the south side fairly flooded with sunshine and yet "full of emptiness," as my Irish cook was wont to say. Not a plant, alive or dead, in that place, though it was large enough to accommodate two hundred pots, and make a lovely place, with such an outlook from the dining room that was connected with it by a large arched doorway. The lady of the house complained she didn't have strength to fuss with plants. Half the time she was in the doctor's hands and his gig stopped at her door regularly. Now if she had only paid his bill and vowed to be her own doctor; if she had begun with a few plants in the fall, studying their little needs and interesting herself by reading the floral magazines; had made excursions into the coun-

them out in the succession desired. The Roman hyacinth and *Totus albus narcissus* always lead in blooming, beginning often before the holidays, followed by the freesia, *Narcissus Grand Soliel d'Or*, crocus, and various other hyacinths, oxalis, alliums, amaryllis and Easter lilies in the order named. The Chinese sacred lily is also a great curiosity, but I find I can get much finer flowers and greater satisfaction by planting *Narcissus totus albus* and *Grand Soliel d'Or*. The former is pure white and the latter golden yellow, and are truly grand when in bloom, many blooms keeping in a good state of preservation for six weeks. I would suggest that those who decide to grow these above named narcissus this next winter should use care in bringing them into the heat. If brought to the heat too suddenly they invariably come blind. My method is to pot in succession during the fall, then put them away in a dark cel-

lar, or cold frame filled with leaves free from frost, and allow them to get well rooted, then bring them to partial light and heat for the first week or two, using your own judgment, so as not to bring them into full heat till the flowering bud is well out of the bulb, then be careful not to give them too much heat, a cool upstairs room being preferable to a hot living room. By using these little precautions everybody can grow these beautiful bulbs with grand success and be better pleased than by laboring long weeks or even months with a few sickly house plants, often



try and come back with nice soil from the woods and fence corners; had visited the greenhouses and bought a few small plants, and coaxed them to grow, bud and bloom; had finally filled her small conservatory and seen it full of flowers while the snow was without, and had the pleasure of sending a pretty plant to a sick friend, or given a flower to some ragged little waif, then she might have known better health in mind and body, and been happier herself, as well as having flowers to give away.

SISTER GRACIOUS.

#### Winter Flowering Bulbs.

While we are now enjoying the beautiful things in nature, cultivating our gardens, picking beautiful flowers, let us not forget the bleak winter months so fast approaching, but begin now to make our calculations and arrangements to cheer our homes by procuring a choice collection of winter blooming bulbs. Past experience has caused me to abandon largely the cultivation of geraniums and various other house plants during the winter. I find I can derive much more pleasure by growing bulbs in large quantities so as to have a succession of bloom, and by careful management one may have a continuation of bloom from the holidays till their usual blooming time in the spring. The bulbs I plant are the hyacinths, crocus, narcissus, freesia, ixia, alliums, oxalis, amaryllis and *Lilium Harrisii*. I begin potting in September and continue, at intervals, till after Thanksgiving, carefully marking each planting so as to bring

wondering why they do not bloom like some of our neighbors'. Let me urge you, floral friend, to try a few bulbs this winter. If your means are limited, as is the case with most of us, try only these three kinds, Hyacinth Chas. Dickens, *Narcissus totus albus* and *Freesia Leichtlini*, and I am sure you will be surprised and more than pleased. If you succeed or fail write and tell us of the results, and perhaps we can help you; if you should fail once, try again. The writer failed twice before success crowned his efforts.

This is a beautiful world and nothing in it is more beautiful than the floral world; and there is nothing in the floral world more beautiful than is portrayed in the beauties of our winter and spring blooming bulbs.

I would also add that when the bulbs are done blooming in the house they may be removed to the cellar where they will ripen their leaves, and can be planted out in the garden the next fall, where the following spring they will bloom and cheer you for years to come.

Wappingers Falls, N. Y.

H. C. T.

The colony of Sierra Leone is 103 years old, yet there is no machinery there except the sewing machine. The population is upwards of 50,000, and not a saw mill, or any other kind of a mill, in operation.

Scotland contains thirty towns of more than 10,000 inhabitants. Seven of these number more than 30,000 inhabitants, nine have between 20,000 and 30,000, and the remaining fourteen have from 10,000 to 20,000.





### OUR LETTER BOX.

In this department we will be pleased to answer any questions, relating to Flowers, Vegetables, and Plants, or to hear of the experiences of our readers.  
JAMES VICK.

#### Ants on Lawns.

JAMES VICK:—To kill ants on lawns mix one tablespoon of white hellebore in a pail of water and saturate the ground; it has never failed with me.  
Lemant, Ill. Mrs. S. W. M.

#### Ivy Geraniums.

JAMES VICK:—Is it better to grow Ivy geraniums in pots or baskets, and how can they be made bushy?  
E. T.

Raise them either in pots or baskets. Nip off the ends of the growing shoots to make them bushy.

#### Narcissus Changing Form.

JAMES VICK:—A year ago all my jonquils bloomed yellow daffodils, this year they have reverted to their original form and color of the Narcissus poeticus, and all that I distributed last year have done the same. I do not wonder at flowers blooming in different colors under certain conditions, but when they change their form it is quite another thing.  
H.  
New Bedford, Mass.

#### Ivy Geranium.

JAMES VICK:—Would you please inform your readers how to treat the Ivy geranium? The buds blast on mine, and I have done everything I could think of for it, perhaps too much.  
Mrs. B. P.

Repot the plant, being careful to supply good drainage and use light, rich soil. Give liquid manure occasionally, or water with a little aqua ammonia in it.

#### Black Currants.

JAMES VICK:—I know what is the matter with the black currant bushes which a correspondent was asking about in the May number of the MAGAZINE, page 74. They are starved. If he will give them frequent doses of slops and washing water, and a liberal sprinkle of wood ashes he will have plenty of currants. I have bushes which are offshoots of those I saw my father set, which he brought from England in 1834, and they are bent down with fruit every summer.  
Mrs. E. B. H.

#### Moving an Asparagus Bed.

JAMES VICK:—I have a bed of asparagus in my yard and want to remove it. Will you please give me some information in regard to the best time to reset it?  
Hopkes Mills, Ill. M. L.

It is no use to reset old asparagus plants. Set out young plants where they are wanted and destroy the old bed. Asparagus beds can be made in October to advantage, and will then be ready to start at the opening of spring.

#### To Make Fuchsia Bushy.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell, in the MAGAZINE, how to make a fuchsia grow bushy if inclined to run out in long slim branches.  
X.

Pinch off the top of the plant when young. This will cause shoots to start out all along the stem. When the plant has sent up a leader a few inches high pinch it again, and thus repeat the operation of pinching while the plant is growing until a compact bushy specimen is secured.

#### Cactus Plants.

JAMES VICK:—In the April number of your MAGAZINE I took notice of two articles in your "Letter Box" department regarding cacti; now I have over

150 kinds of those curious plants and have the most of them to bloom for me, some of the mamularias and echinocactus continue to bloom all summer. Now when I water them, which I do twice a week, I add about a tablespoonful of aqua ammonia to one quart of water, which I use luke warm, I find this method makes the plants grow and at the same time it makes them bloom.  
R. G.

Erie, Pa.

#### Seedlings Dying.

JAMES VICK:—What is the cause of my plants from seed, when about an inch high, remaining nice and green for some time and then wilt and die?  
D.

It is hard soil or too much water, or too little water, or too great an exposure to a hot sun in a shallow box, or some other cause which our inquirer should discover by careful observation. The cause is a local one, and it would be impossible for any one to tell what it is without having the case under inspection.

#### Pansies from Seed.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell me if it is better to prune pansies or let them grow as they will? The long branches lying on the ground give to a bed of pansies, I think, a ragged look. Out of a twenty-five cent package of seeds from you I have one hundred nice plants but they do not yet bloom.  
J. H.

Staten Island, N. Y.

The long shoots can be cut off and the tendency will be to cause the plant to make a thicker head. The plants should not be expected to bloom until the cooler weather comes in the fall.

#### Queries.

JAMES VICK:—I had a bed of mixed varieties of tulips in the spring. If the bulbs are planted together in the fall will they mix and not be so pretty? Do the French cannas grow as large as the old variety? Do they want as much watering as the caladium? The latter is almost a water plant.  
SUBSCRIBER.

The tulips can be planted in a bed together and will not mix. The French cannas are dwarf compared with plants raised from seeds of the species. In ordinary weather cannas in good soil will do well without watering, but will grow more rapidly with it.

#### The Yellow Day Lily.

JAMES VICK:—Please kindly mention in the MAGAZINE how to treat bulbs of Hemerocallis flava (day lily). My lilies have bloomed for ten years most profusely until this year; not one has bloomed this year; they have increased wonderfully. Are the bulbs too crowded? If they want taking up, when shall I do so, and when put them out again?  
A SUBSCRIBER.

New Bedford, Mass.

We have known clumps of yellow day lily to be older than the one mentioned and yet continue to bloom. Still it is quite probable that lifting the bulbs in this case and separating and replanting them in fresh soil will induce better blooming. A good time to make the change will be about the first of October or soon after. It will be well to give the newly transplanted bulbs a covering of leaves for winter protection.

#### Carnation—Freesia—Nicotiana.

JAMES VICK:—The Nellie Lewis carnation is all you recommend it; very large, the colors fine, and the perfume very delicate; it is now, May 19, three weeks since the buds began to open, it is perfection, a flower worth having, so long in bloom. I put the moss packing above some small stones for drainage in a good sized pot with saucer, filled up with common garden soil, watering it mostly from the bottom, it has grown wonderfully. With most plants I find for house culture a little moss very desirable. The freesia you sent me three years ago bloomed lovely again last winter; it had three blooming bulbs, besides putting out new ones. Oh! the delicate perfume they sent out. My nicotiana (made a winter plant) is just now in full bloom; how few know the value of it as a plant. When asked what it is I call it Evening Star, as some would be prejudiced at the name. It does not open until evening, and then perfume permeates the whole house. In the spring I plant it out where it will be a little hidden by some

plants of low growth and it looms up above them all, blooming profusely all summer and multiplying very much. I take up a pot full of it in the autumn and cut it back and enough is left for the neighbors; I noticed some small pieces of roots of it lying around, and I picked them up and planted them in a box and now have fresh plants about one foot high, which is better than to wait for seed. Evening star is its right name when cultivated for its blossoms.  
Mrs. J. B. N.

#### Spotted Calla.

JAMES VICK:—I am so delighted with my spotted calla that I must tell you about it. I received the bulb the first day of April and the 10th of June it opened a lovely blossom. The center lily is 20 inches high with six small ones around it and the flower stalk is 23 inches in height. Will you please tell what treatment to give it this fall? I have read somewhere that it must be dried off as it would only blossom in the summer. I would also say that the chrysanthemum which arrived the same day is a large, bushy plant two feet high, with lots of side branches and little ones from the roots.  
Mrs. J. F. S.

Antigo, Wis.

When frost comes take up the calla and dry it off and keep it during winter in the same way that a potato is kept; place it in a cellar where it will be dry and free from frost.

The suckers coming up from the roots of the chrysanthemum should be removed.

#### Spring Blooming Bulbs.

JAMES VICK:—Please inform me when and where I can get Leucojum vernum, spring snowflake, and Leucojum aestivum, summer snowflake, and also Camassia esculenta, what it is and where it can be bought.  
E. M. S.

These and a great variety of other spring-blooming bulbs will be offered for sale the present autumn through our Bulb Catalogue, which will be issued the last of August. The spring-blooming bulbs must be planted in the fall—a fact which many do not realize and so put off all attention to the subject until reminded of it by seeing, by chance, the blooms in the spring, when it is too late to do anything in the way of raising them. Bulb planting should be done as early in the fall as the bulbs can be procured—though it is not too late any time before winter closes in.

#### Worms on Pansies.

JAMES VICK:—In the April number of the MAGAZINE in the "Question Column," S. M. C. asks for a remedy to kill worms on pansies. I have been troubled greatly in the same way until now; both flowers and plants being eaten. If gas lime is placed around the plant it will, I have proved, kill the insect. This is a lime through which gas is passed in its process of being made and is strongly scented with it, and which all worms seem to dislike, it can probably be found at any gas house. I have placed a few grubs in a dipper covering them well with the lime in the evening, and the next morning found them dead. I have also saved many plants and flowers of all kinds from being eaten by applying the lime in season.  
J. N. P.

Our experience with gas lime is that it is destructive to vegetation, and care must be exercised in regard to the quantity used, and to apply it in small quantities and at a little distance from the plants.

#### Amaryllis.

JAMES VICK:—I have noticed a number of inquiries regarding the culture of amaryllis and how to make them flower, a friend who has had much success with his bulbs (in fact he says he has never had a failure yet) has sent me the enclosed instructions. I am going to follow the instructions in a measure this summer and hope to get flowers out of all my 60 bulbs next winter. Will let you know how they turn out. If you care to hear from me I may find time to write to you once in a while regarding things in my garden. While I am interested in the florist business out of town, yet in my own little garden I do all my own work and am strictly an amateur.  
F. H. P.

Instructions for amaryllis.—I obtain the best results by placing the pot including bulb, in some sheltered place in the garden, buried below the surface,



there it will ripen during the summer; the first of October I take the pot from the ground, place it on its side in the barn or some other dry place, leaving it there until the earth and leaves have thoroughly dried, say two or three weeks, then shake off the earth from the bulbs, allow them to dry for a week, take off the dried up rootlets and place the bulb in fresh earth, water well and place in the sun and inside of a week or two new leaves will start, soon followed by the flower stalk. I have also obtained fair results by taking the bulb from the garden about the first of November, drying the earth for a week or two, taking the bulb from the dried earth and repotting it at once, the flower is as strong but much later taking four to six weeks to start. JERSEY.

We hope frequently to hear from F. H. P. Reports of experience in practice are always desirable. There are no better guides for future work.

#### Auratum Lily.

JAMES VICK:—A year ago last April I bought a bulb of *Lilium auratum* of you which I planted in a well prepared bed about six inches deep. It came up about six weeks later but did not bloom. Last fall I covered it with about three inches of leaves and thought it would come up good and strong this season and bloom well, but I waited in vain. On digging up the spot where the lily was planted I found that the bulb was all rotten. Therefore I would like to know something about the culture of this lily; whether it is best that it be taken up in the fall, dotted and put away in the cellar till spring, and then sink the pot in the ground. Please give full instructions on the culture of this lily in the next MAGAZINE and also tell me why the lily rotted. C. N.

#### Centralia, Ill.

Why the lily bulb rotted it would be difficult to say. It should be well understood that the gold-banded lily is a fickle plant. It is never long-lived and is frequently disappointing in the manner described by our correspondent. Nevertheless it is a plant of such great beauty that it is worth many trials to finally succeed with it. It may be raised in a pot in the house altogether, but not in a half and half way as proposed. In planting it should be placed in a deep, well-drained soil, setting it eight or ten inches deep, and covering it well with leaves in autumn for winter protection. A site partly shaded, or shaded during the warmest part of the day, is desirable. Do not dig fresh manure into the soil where it is planted.

#### Soil for House Plants.

JAMES VICK:—What kind of soil is best for house plants? MRS. L. D.

The character of a good soil for house plants is so frequently mentioned in our pages that we sometimes fear our readers will weary of it; but it appears to be the line upon line that is needed. The first few inches of soil under the sod of an old pasture will supply the basis of a good potting soil. Experience has shown that the addition of some leaf mold—more or less—will improve the character of the soil. The leaf mold is the vegetable soil or mold found on the surface of the ground in woods and is formed by the decay of the leaves which fall from year to year. A general rule which gardeners sometimes observe is to increase the quantity of leaf mold for fine-rooted plants and to use less, or none of it, for those which make strong, coarse roots. The nice proportions, if worthy of notice, are to be learned only by experience. A soil which will suit a great variety of plants may be composed of three parts loam from an old pasture, as described, and one part leaf mold, and another part of sand to make the soil porous and insure free drainage. Now to this mixture may be added more or less manure, according to what is desired to be accomplished with the plants. For ordinary house plants one part of well rotted cow manure may be used and the whole compost will be suitable for most

purposes. When fuchsias are wanted to be pushed into a strong growth in the spring add more manure; so, also, with chrysanthemums when a strong, vigorous growth is wanted. The plant-grower must learn how to increase or decrease the amount of both manure and water used, according to circumstances.

#### Anti-Bos.

JAMES VICK:—My sympathy was enlisted at once for Mrs. S. L. F., whose inquiry appeared in the June number, page 119. It is very provoking to see how greedily animals will devour something which they have snatched for themselves, when you know if you had offered it they would have refused it scornfully. There is the graceful syringa, I do not find it in any catalogue now, it grows high and droops nearly to the ground. Flowers pure white, very much larger than mock orange and do not have the heavy odor of that variety. I have one that hangs far over the street fence and nothing ever troubles it. I have not known cows to eat weigela, deutzias, Japan quince, spiræas, Forsythia, or an old fashioned honeysuckle, or woodbine. Mahonia is prickly enough when the leaves are grown. No shrub is as handsome when out of flower as Forsythia. I do not promise cows will let any of them alone if they can get their horns into them. A cow used to pass along the street and stop every day to turn and twist her head at an arbor vitæ inside our fence, and give up with a groan because she couldn't reach it. I have a large trumpet creeper beside the street fence, kept in bush form by cows and horses; they always trim it just before blossom time. Barberrry may be good to plant in some places, but here where it grows wild people do not think it very desirable. The blossoms are pretty and the fruit makes a good jelly. Grain raisers do not like its company. I have seen acres of it. The bushes are gay when the berries are ripe.

What I want is things *anti rose bug*. The Virginia creeper was riddled by rose bugs before the roses blossomed. Cows and horses delight to strip it from its supports. Is there any vine hardy enough to climb on an old tree at the east corner of a house, where the north wind rakes across in winter, one that rose bugs will not eat? I bought *Euonymus variegata* for it but it is too small for such a place. I do not want any more trumpet creeper, it beats everything at traveling underground, while *calystegia*, that has been condemned so much lately, has all died out; besides the trumpet vine leaves stumps to spoil one's shoes when walking on the grass.

I planted my Bermuda lily half way to the bottom of the pot, and it seems not to have been deep enough, little bulbs are trying to grow for three inches above the soil. If we could have pots deeper without being so large around they would be better for lilies. L.

#### Propagating Carnations and Roses—Mildew.

JAMES VICK:—In June issue of the MAGAZINE G. F. M. speaks of raising carnations from cuttings, but he does not say how to root the cuttings or what length cutting he takes, or from what part of the old plant he takes them. Wish you would give a few points on the subject and also the proper cuttings to take from Tea roses to be successful in rooting and about how to prepare the soil in which to insert cuttings of carnations and roses.

Also tell me how I can distinguish carnations from picotees before they come into bloom, and if picotees will make good bloomers for winter in the house or should they be left out over winter.

Can you describe the symptoms of mildew which attacks roses when grown in pots? Does the plant commence to shrink up as if deprived of sap and does it commence to turn black? I have lost several old bushes in this way this spring and cannot account for it. A R.

Milton West, Canada.

We have no doubt that G. F. M., when this comes under his notice, will prepare an answer which shall cover all the points here inquired about in relation to raising carnations from cuttings.

Carnations cannot be distinguished from picotees before blooming, and the latter can be treated precisely the same as carnations.

Rose cuttings can be made of young wood, not that which is yet soft and sappy, nor that which has become hard, but that which is firm

and not yet very hard. A cutting of two eyes is sufficient, the leaf being left, or a portion of it, at the upper extremity, and the one at the base bud entirely removed. By cutting off a portion of the upper leaf the transpiration is lessened and thus the cutting is secured from wilting. Such cuttings planted right out in the open garden in July or early in August will root in a short time. Some attention must be given to shading during the hottest part of the day, and sufficient water be given to keep the plants gently moist.

Mildew on roses is first seen on the leaves and if neglected will eventually cause them to turn brown or black and drop off. Spraying mildewed rows with a solution of sulphide of potash, a quarter of an ounce dissolved in a gallon of water, will kill the mildew.

France possesses 1100 mineral springs, of which over 1000 are made use of in France.

## To Preserve

The richness, color, and beauty of the hair, the greatest care is necessary, much harm being done by the use of worthless dressings. To be sure of having a first-class article, ask your druggist or perfumer for **Ayer's Hair Vigor**. It is absolutely superior to any other preparation of the kind. It restores the original color and fullness to hair which has become thin, faded, or gray. It keeps the scalp cool, moist, and free from dandruff. It heals itching humors, prevents baldness, and imparts to

## THE HAIR

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"Over a year ago I had a severe fever, and when I recovered, my hair began to fall out, and what little remained turned gray. I tried various remedies, but without success, till at last I began to

## USE

Ayer's Hair Vigor, and now my hair is growing rapidly and is restored to its original color."—Mrs. Annie Collins, Dighton, Mass.

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for nearly five years, and my hair is moist, glossy, and in an excellent state of preservation. I am forty years old, and have ridden the plains for twenty-five years."—Wm. Henry Ott, alias "Mustang Bill," Newcastle, Wyo.

## Ayer's Hair Vigor

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.  
Sold by Druggists Everywhere.



# VICK'S MAGAZINE.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST, 1892.

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## Editorial Notes.

He that falls today may be up again tomorrow, but he or she that sends 50 cents for VICK'S MAGAZINE is sure to get it for one year. Do it today.

Our September issue will contain a handsome colored plate of tulips, hyacinths, etc., all suggestive of what should be planted in the fall for flowers next spring.

Over \$700 in advertising from rebus schemers and others who seek to get something and give practically nothing, have been declined for this issue. Do our readers appreciate it?

Some of our subscribers took advantage of the special offer on watches in our June number. We repeat it again this month, and would say that our list contains a choice collection of only the best for the price.

A careful estimate by Bradstreet's Commercial Agency shows these unexpected results from loss of crops in the central west and in the lower Mississippi States by storms and floods: Illinois, \$12,000,000; Iowa, \$75,000; Missouri, \$15,000,000; Arkansas, \$1,500,000; Louisiana, \$400,000. Our readers will naturally sympathize with all in these sections.

## Pianos and Organs.

For a quarter of a century the name of the firm of Cornish & Co., of Washington, N. J., has been the synonym in the piano and organ trade for uprightness and square dealing. Their magnificent trade extends into all parts of the globe, and with a capacity of fifty pianos and organs per day it would seem that they alone would supply the whole world. Their various plans for supplying instruments to people anywhere and everywhere, for spot cash or on instalments where desired, are all told in several catalogues which they will send on application.

## Plenty of Roses.

My new roses grow in a bed by themselves in the sunniest spot in the flower garden. Exactly thirty-six bushes in a rectangular bed of about nine by thirty feet.

A year ago last March they were sent me from the grower in a small box by mail. When my husband handed me the stamped package, my

heart fell, as I cried, "My roses, what in the world will I do with them?" for a blizzard was howling out of doors and we were hugging the stove as though it were January. "We will have to bring the bed indoors and thaw it out to plant them," he replied good naturedly, while I opened the box and drew out, beneath the soft moss, the bunch of lovely green with here and there a long, pointed and perfumy bud, each little rooted plant breathing its longing for sunshine and balmy air, while I sighed at the dismal prospect without.

I have found no help with flowers so satisfactory as that given by one's husband; true, I have never been able to afford the assistance of an educated gardener, but I imagine our gardens would not be half so delightful to us if we did not plan and work them ourselves; I feeling the same interest in his fine strawberries and tomatoes that he takes in my roses and carnations.

But to return to this particular lot of roses: we managed to find a box of soil put aside for repotting, and after soaking the plants in luke warm water all night, I separated them carefully and buried them, each one to itself, in the soil, placing the box in a cool place, and, as soon as the thermometer rose above freezing, transferred it to a shaded spot on the south gallery where it remained for nearly a month before the ground was in proper condition to plant anything.

We had made the rose bed the year before, and this assertion may be understood literally, for it was part of a hollow which we had added to our town lot and filled to a level with most unpromising clay from an adjacent excavation. I might write a chapter on the trouble we had bringing this earth into a state fit for the cultivation of flowers, but let it suffice that by dint of much spading and manuring, saving up of wood ashes and coffee grounds, and turning under a luxuriant crop of young clover and a great pile of dead leaves, we thought it might do, though wisecracks to whom we confided our plans shook their heads or recommended sand or lime, and so on. In this bed my roses were planted; thirty-six holes were first dug and a spadeful of rich soil placed in each one; then I spread the little roots out carefully while he covered and pressed them firmly down. Then tallies a foot long were made of pine and on two sides the name of two roses were written in large clear type which could be read without going on the bed, and the tallies were driven into the ground between the named roses.

There were the American Beauty and Duchess of Albany, Her Majesty, Mrs. John Laing, and every high priced rose that took my fancy. I feel tempted to name them all, for each one was of a different variety, though they were not all chosen from the fancy list, for there were also my old favorites, Malmaison and Jules Margottin, La France, Paul Neyron, and a host of others, old as well as new.

The sun shone brightly at last and dried up the yellow clay into stiff lumps which my husband faithfully hoed, while I watched the little bare branches grow pink with leaf buds and fought the numerous insects that dared attack my pets. And our neighbors passing by grew curious at the interest and attention we gave this bare looking bed. At last the magnificent circle of "Jacs" were nodding their great red beauties at us and the Comtesse de Murinais,

which was in the center of the tulip bed, looked like a lady's parasol of mossed leaves and white roses, while the air was sweet with hyacinths, and later the pansies, snapdragons and campanulas were claiming admiration by their brilliant masses.

But we did not remit our tender care of the baby roses. The first full blown rose was on Madame Hoste, a lovely pendulous rose, almost clear white, with only a suggestion of yellow and a bunch of brown stamens in the center, not the catalogue description but satisfactory. Next the Dinsmore put forth a grand erect flower, altogether charming to look at but without fragrance. Madam Chas. Wood, which bloomed a few days later, is as good a bloomer, and so sweet! Then La France, not to be outdone, put forth two blooms at once, just one day ahead of the Duchess of Albany, and these two, the pale mother and her brilliant young daughter, have been vying with each other ever since in wealth of bloom and fragrance. The Mary Washington, which I wanted to reach the top of a post in the shortest possible time, and on that account tried to keep trimmed to a single shoot, in spite of my efforts spread out into half a dozen clusters of pretty old fashioned roses, growing and blooming to suit itself, but delightfully nevertheless.

My husband says I have been fooling away time and money on flowers all my life, but certainly never before have I been so fortunate as with that bed of roses. Not one of them died, all grew finely and most of them bloomed the first year, and one blossom off a young rose was watched and admired by the whole family and finally sent to a friend to be readmired.

But "all things come to him who waits." This spring when we lifted the straw from our year old roses and had the manure, an inch of which had been spread on in the fall, all spaded under by Uncle Jake, the old darkey who does our heavy work, it was astonishing to see how those roses grew and bloomed; we trimmed them down to about half a foot from the ground and soon the bed was bright with red and yellow shoots, each bearing their tiny buds which the strong sunshine soon expanded. Plenty of roses! Oh yes, baskets and baskets full. Roses for dining room and parlor, roses for the vases at church, bouquets for the children to put on their teacher's desk; bowls full for our sick neighbor across the way.

My husband said he would like to see me have my fill of them, but in an attempt to satisfy me he has grown fond of them himself and now wants to have a whole bed of a sort of all his favorites, and that is the reason we are so busy with our cuttings this year.

But, although it is true that I never before had such success with a lot of plants, yet there was one great disappointment. The American Beauty, which we expected to be the gem of our collection and had planted in a conspicuous place on the bed, proved through some mistake of the grower, to be a miserable little rose, off color and semi-double, not worth the ground on which it grew, and through the long summer and fall it was our *bete noir*, for it bloomed too late to plant another in its place. However, we have a flourishing bush now, and in place of Mary Washington, which took up too much room, is a promising plant of Vick's Caprice, on which a bud has not as yet appeared.

CLARE RIXNIER.



### "I Can't" and "Don't Want-to."

Say! What is the matter with boys who shirk so,  
Whenever there's something to do?  
They walk with "I Can't" and "Don't Want-to"  
all day,  
Or sit in the shadow, or trifle and play,  
While parents with over-much care growing gray,  
Are toiling and moiling and digging away;  
What makes these boys choose such associates, pray?  
Did "I Can't" ever give them a morsel of bread  
"Don't Want-to" a sixth of a pie,  
Or mend up their hose, or give them new clothes,  
Or make them the least reparation for woes?  
To hear them sometime one would almost suppose  
These fellows had dressed them from crown-top to toes,  
And licensed each boy to do just as he chose,  
And painted "Do nothing" in couleur de rose.  
"I Can't" and "Don't Want-to," I know them by sight;  
They're cheats, and leave folks in the lurch;  
The fellows they are leading come out very poor,  
And they stand in the way all the boys to allure  
Into Idleness-lane, over Slothfulness moor,  
To the Sin-haunted-bog where destruction is sure;  
For bad habits gained are quite apt to endure,  
And the white-handed idler is not the most pure.  
Oh, boys, don't go with them or heed what they say;  
Be manly and cheerful and brave;  
The boys who work best are the liveliest crew;  
'Tis the work that gives pleasure a relish that's new,  
For he who is faithful should have his fun too.  
Now let's all join together; help me, I'll help you,  
For if all would be happy and loving and true,  
Not one pair of hands must do duty for two.

MRS. M. J. SMITH.

### Our Garden Lilies.

Several strong, well established clumps of *Lilium croceum* furnish gorgeous candelabras of bloom for Decoration Day. With the later June come the stately Madonna lilies, in whose white tent the golden cuirassed bees hold joyous revel. Let it be as "line upon line, and precept upon precept" that, in order to be sure of bloom in the succeeding season, *Lilium candidum* should be transplanted when the foliage has died down in August. Also, no manure must be used in contact with the bulbs. I



LILIUM CANDIDUM.

plant ours about six inches deep, in good loamy soil, with a handful of sand under each bulb. In a short time they stretch up and make a tuft of leaves which continue growth till stopped by frost.

Once upon a time a Bermuda lily was sent me by a friend in Florida, with the information that it was "very desirable." I had depended on the calla for Easter bloom theretofore, and I potted it with much hope that when Easter came I should have a bloom that would excite wonder and admiration. That was ten years ago. The bulb never budded, but it formed a number of fleshy excrescences at the axils of the leaves, which looked like imperfect bulb-lets. When fall came I deposited it in one of the garden borders and told it to freeze or flour-

ish. For two years it came up but did not bloom; the third year it had one long trumpet flower on it, but today, it has so increased and strengthened, there are thirty-two gigantic bells that will expand into ivory trumpets when the Madonna lilies are a thing of the past. And



BERMUDA LILY.

yet I bear the flower a grudge that it gave me no opportunity to say to it at an earlier season: "Today thy shiny silver robe O, Easter lily, wear, Unfold thy golden beauty, make sweet with incense all the air.

Sing, with mute lips, thy Easter song.  
I hear it, and my faith grows strong.  
He sees, who waits with patient trust,  
Immortal beauty rise from dust."

We have sought to acclimate *L. auratum*, but it has been a shy bloomer and seems indisposed to glorify our garden with its magnificent clusters.

We have one so-called lily that sits with its feet always in water. For years we kept a tub filled with pond lilies in the open sunshine and they never bloomed. This summer, or spring rather, the tub was removed to a rockery which was constructed partly to add to the beauty of the premises, and partly to conceal a painted wooden pump over a cistern, whose utility was



LILIUM LANCIFOLIUM.

its excuse for being. A grape vine grew over the cistern and an arbor vite stretched out to clasp hands with an apple tree near the rockery. There was shadow there almost all day long. The pond lily lifted up out of the water a most beautiful and thrifty bud early in June. A

robin of aesthetic tastes built a nest in the grape vines where it could watch the lily unfold, or perhaps find easy access to the water. Our going back and forth to the cistern did not disturb it, and our back yard has a picture of confident repose that would delight the heart of an artist.

*L. lancifolium rubrum* opens rose colored flowers spotted with crimson, and seems a blushing beauty among lilies. The tiger lilies, though coarse, are striking and superb in their rich luxuriance of stalk and foliage, but their great clumps shall hide their stately heads before the more refined beauty of *L. proccox*, whose white flowers with pea green stem, and green band in



LILIUM AURATUM.

petals, seem pure to transparency. The fragrance is also delightful and it is a superior lily in all its qualities.

The keynote to success with all kinds of lilies is deep planting at the proper season, and for many varieties partial shade.

L. G. PATTERSON.

### Flowers in Churches.

What is now common was once unknown in New England, in places of religious worship, even flowers for decoration. Though our grandmothers had their little flower gardens, yet I know not but it would have been deemed sacrilege to have taken flowers to the church, and perhaps the staid old deacons would have banished them at once. But times and seasons change, and I well remember the first time I ever saw flowers in a church on the Sabbath. It was on a lovely June morning in the year 1852. I do not remember one word of the sermon, neither can I tell so much as the text, but the flowers on the table within the altar railing were arranged in the form of a cross—pure white Scotch roses with just enough of the green leaves for a setting, and in the center a rich cluster of Lady Washington geranium of a dark pink with the upper petals maroon. This floral piece spoke volumes to the hearts of the congregation of their Maker and heavenly Father. Flowers in church decoration are best arranged in a simple manner, for anything elaborate detracts from the flowers themselves and calls attention to the decorator. There is an affection about flowers which not every heart can appreciate, for many persons never spend a thought upon them. To the reflective mind they are capable of awakening beautiful and ennobling thoughts.

T.





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As announced below, the Vick Publishing Co. have, in the interest of their subscribers, made arrangements to supply a superior grade of

watches in a variety of handsome styles at the very lowest rates that these articles can be made. A thorough investigation has enabled us to obtain the most reliable time keepers in the handsomest cases. The watches which we are able to offer to our readers are admirable in workmanship and beautiful in appearance. Both the gold and silver watches which we advertise are equal in appearance to watches many times their price in which the cases are of unalloyed gold and silver. They are superb examples of the jeweler's art, and may be worn and exhibited with full assurance that they are equal to the best.

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pelled to purchase foreign counterfeits simply because they cannot purchase the genuine without paying two or three big profits.

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Address all letters and remittances to  
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### Notes and Comments.

The chief reason of the failure of tree seeds to grow when kept through the winter and planted in the spring is that they have been allowed to get too dry. If kept in moist sand or moss in a cool place through the winter they can be planted in the spring and will grow without difficulty.

Such tree seeds as walnut and hickory nuts are best planted in the fall where the trees are wanted as they have long tap roots and are rather difficult to transplant. Besides this they are acted upon by the frost and so cracked that the germ may grow.

The best potting soil is one composed of two thirds well decayed turfy loam, one-third well decomposed manure and a fair sprinkling of bone dust. Mix well before it is used by passing through a coarse sieve.

*Cladrastis tinctoria* is very highly esteemed by many as an ornamental tree for the lawn as it is free from all insect pests and; moreover, of rapid growth. It has compound leaves like the locust, and its white, pea-shaped, sweet scented flowers are produced in long drooping racemes. It is also known as *Virgilia lutea*.

The *Lucretia dewberry* can be readily increased from root cuttings.

The genus *oxalis* is a very extensive one, embracing as it does a great number of species which differ widely in habit and manner of growth, some being annuals, some herbaceous perennials and some greenhouse shrubs. Again some have tuberous roots, others bulbs, some are tender, others perfectly hardy. Many of the species are among our most valuable greenhouse and window garden plants.

*Oxalis floribunda*, *O. Bowiei*, *O. cernua* are winter blooming species and especially adapted for hanging baskets in the greenhouse and window garden. *O. lasiandra* and *O. Deppei* are excellent for summer blooming in the open air, and so are *O. crenata* and *O. tetraphylla*, but these should be started under glass so as to get them planted out strong when frost is over.

There are two varieties of *Oxalis floribunda*, one with bright rose, and the other with pure white flowers. For warm, sunny situations in the window garden or greenhouse both are well adapted, as their flowers are produced in unlimited quantities during the fall and winter months.

*Wistaria sinensis*, the Chinese wistaria, was introduced into England in 1816 and was for a long time grown as a greenhouse plant and until it was accidentally found to be hardy.

The *Blue Woodruff*, *Asperula odorata*, grows from ten to twelve inches in height, its flowers are of a light blue color and highly fragrant. It is comparatively unknown, but its modest beauty and sweetness should secure a place in every garden for it.

*Impatiens Sultanii* is one of the very best winter flowering plants we have for window garden cultivation, as it delights in a warm, dry situation and will then produce its rich magenta colored flowers in the greatest profusion, especially during the winter season.

*Coreopsis lanceolata* succeeds well when grown as an annual. If the seeds are sown in March, and the young plants properly cared for they will come into flower in August and continue until frost. It is one of our most valuable garden plants, useful alike for cut flowers or decorative purposes.

*Akebia quinata* is a Japanese climber of rapid

growth suitable for covering large arbors or trellises. It is perfectly hardy although of delicate appearance. It is also well adapted for covering old trees and will completely cover and hang in festoons from the branches. The flowers are produced in clusters, they are of a dark brown color and very fragrant. In a deep, well enriched soil it will attain a height of forty feet; and a growth of from twenty to twenty-five feet in a single season would not be an uncommon circumstance.

*Hyacinthus candicans* can be readily increased by seeds. These, if sown early and the young plants properly cared for, will produce bulbs which will bloom well the second season.

C. E. PARNELL.

### ✓ *Narcissus Bulbocodium*.

The following contribution which appeared a short time since in *Garden and Forest* is a true testimony to the value of this bulb for winter house-culture, as we have proved in our own experience. We hope that many of our readers will have the pleasure that these plants afford to the senses of both sight and smell during the coming winter months. Being of the easiest cultivation there is no reason why they should not be very generally employed as house plants. Some will want to know what to do with them after blooming. Well, they can be tried again,



NARCISSUS CYCLAMINEUS.

but will not give as good results as at first, and as the bulbs are not expensive, we should not advise this course. Throw them out and the next season use fresh, strong bulbs.

It is a matter of surprise that this narcissus, the Hooped Petticoat, Daffodil, is not more generally known and cultivated by those who grow bulbous winter flowering plants; while many others are grown in immense quantity, these little gems are seldom seen. When trying to obtain some bulbs last fall I was told they could not be found to the number required in any of three large cities, and they had to be imported before an order for 500 could be filled. No bulb gives more flowers in proportion to its size, as it is quite common to see five flowers to a bulb, so that when planted thickly in shallow pans the effect is very pleasing. It is possible that many have failed with this narcissus because of attempts to force it. Under this treatment nothing but leaves will be produced, as is the case with the snowdrop or crocus. After being potted they should be wintered in a cold frame until the end of February, when the flowers will be produced with very little heat in a greenhouse or in a sitting room window. *N. Bulbocodium* is of a bright yellow in the typical plant, but there is a variety known as *Citrinus* that has flowers of a lovely lemon-yellow, but this form cannot yet be obtained in quantity at reasonable prices. This last remark applies also to *N. cyclamineus*, the cyclamen-flowered narcissus, which to me is the prettiest of the

whole genus. Its dainty and quaint appearance, so different from all others, makes one wish it would live longer in cultivation, but complaints are common that after once flowering it dwindles away, and such has been my experience. Mr. Barr, the narcissus specialist, tells us it needs a moist situation when planted out; but, then, a New England winter is vastly different from that of Portugal, and planting outdoors here is not to be thought of. This kind was lost to cultivation for over one hundred years, owing possibly to the difficulty in growing it, and now that it is rediscovered there is a danger of its being exterminated by collectors unless better success is obtained with it under cultivation.—O. O. in *Garden and Forest*.

### ✓ Tulip History.

The following interesting statements in regard to the tulip are from a recent issue of *British Gardening*:

The history of the tulip is a very interesting one, and just at this season of the year, or rather during the month of May and the earlier part of June, one's curiosity, as regards knowing something about the past of these lovely flowers, is naturally awakened. A great deal of the history of their past is wrapped up in enigma. The earliest mention that we have of the tulip, either in the writings of herbalists or in classical poetry, is about the middle of the sixteenth century. In the celebrated gallery of old pictures at Orvietto, which contains many other drawings of flowers—the products of Italian art—there are a few sketches of the tulip; these, however, are all representations of the pointed-

petalled species, whilst those grown in our gardens are characterized by their rounded petals. The native home of the many species of tulips known to science—about sixty in all—is in the countries of Southern Europe and Southwestern Asia, the Caucasus, Kurdistan, the mountainous regions of Armenia, and the adjacent countries. A certain wild tulip—*Tulipa sylvestris*—is also found growing wild in certain parts of the Eastern counties of England. This species is a yellow one, and very sweet scented. The first author who took any notice of the tulip was Conrad Gesner, of Zurich, the most famous botanist of his day, and a name which has been immortalized in the formation of the order Gesneraceæ. He tells us that in the beginning of April, 1559,

he first saw the tulip at Augsburg, and we subsequently learn that these bulbs were imported from Byzantium. During the Elizabethan era the tulip became rapidly diffused in Western Europe, more especially in the neighborhood of the Rhine, and its cultivation gradually extended all over the Netherlands, Belgium, and surrounding provinces. Clusius (1571) mentions its introduction into the Netherlands, and he tells how it soon became a great favorite in the vicinity of Leyden, where he eventually settled down. In 1577 Gesner's tulip was introduced into London by a Mr. James Garret, an apothecary in the city, and there it soon attracted the attention of good old Gerard, who devotes a great many folio pages to its description, etc., concluding with the surmise that this tulip must have been the scriptural "lily of the field." Concerning its history since that date, and the great "tulipomania," most of us are familiar. The tulip, indeed, has a glorious past, but we venture to predict that it has a future still more glorious, for undoubtedly great possibilities will evolve out of the many new species recently introduced and reintroduced into European gardens by Leichtlin, Regel, and others.

Uncle Sam is worth \$62,500,000,000.



## Cabbage Worms.

To kill the cabbage worms take a hoe and cover the head with dry dirt, when the rain washes it off put on more. The plants head from the inside and the dirt does not injure them.

A. L. W.

Under the Roman rule the Egyptians excelled in glass-making. Caesar Augustus having a great admiration for the glass of Egypt, when he had subdued that country (26 B. C.), ordered that it should form part of the annual tribute to be paid to the victors. This became a source of incredible wealth to Egypt, for the Romans, having thereby become familiar with Egyptian glass, ordered it in immense quantities, and the Egyptians devoted themselves to a very large export trade, of which they preserved the monopoly until the reign of Tiberius (14 A. D.), at which time, according to Pliny, this industry began to be cultivated at Rome.

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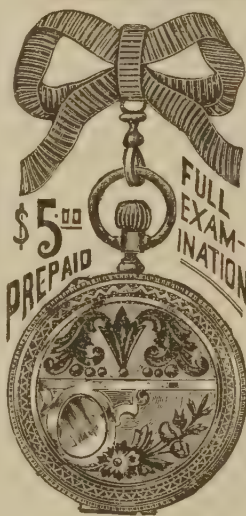
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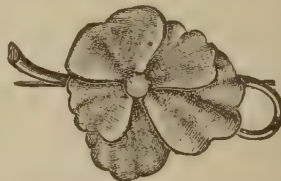
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Raising Water Lilies from Seed.

No, I have never tried it, but I have a friend who has, and she is so delighted with the result, so proud of her beautiful plants, and has given me such explicit directions, that I am quite enthusiastic, and intend to "try my luck." I think it must be most fascinating; I suppose because it is so new and different from other seed sowing.

This is her plan, just as she related it: She had two varieties of seed, and planted them in china bowls about four inches high. Filling them nearly full of good rich garden soil and sand, she sprinkled the seed over this and sifted sand on them about a quarter of an inch deep, and set the bowls in a pan of water very carefully so that none of the sand or seed should be washed out. The water covered the bowls only about an inch, and the pan was then set in the sunny window of a warm room. After she had waited and watched those bowls for about two weeks, tiny little hair-like plants began to make their appearance, and when the little seedlings had formed two or three leaves, they were transplanted to small pots and again sand was placed on the soil, and they were set in a pan of fresh water, covering them about two inches deep. She planted the seeds in the bowls the third week in March, and the first week in July the little seedlings, which had formed fine, strong roots, were ready to plant in their barrel ponds. It all seems simple enough, does it not? Why shouldn't we have the same success?

Philadelphia.

PHEBE R.

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Amarallis to Bloom in March.

I should like to tell L., your correspondent in July number, how to have Amaryllis Johnson bloom in March or early in April. In early summer I set mine out of doors, out of the way, only giving it water if very dry. Before frost I cut off the leaves and put it in the cellar dry. After New Year's I bring it into the living room and water well with warm water. Soon the leaves start and soon after bud stalks. In due time they are a grand sight. **C. B. B. West Damascus, Pa.**

White Worms.

I got rid of the white worms in my plant pots by taking off some of the top soil and putting in fresh. They became infested with worms by putting them in the cellar. **A. L. W. Campbell, Neb.**

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## Amaryllis.

Perhaps a little of my experience with amaryllis would benefit some of your readers, as I have so often read in many different magazines and journals of complaints from ladies in regard to having this plant bloom. But I see Mrs. R. M. C., of Poughkeepsie, as stated on page 117, is, like myself, one of the successful ones. I think I can say I am even more successful than she is, for I now am enjoying this 18th of June, the bloom of twelve flower stalks with four lilies on each stalk, making 48 lilies in all, and nearly all in bloom at once, from six bulbs placed in a box which I repotted, before putting in my cellar last fall, in good rich soil in the bottom of box, not interfering with the bulbs or soil about their roots. This box had been standing all winter on the cellar floor, where it is a little damp, until March, when I gave it a good watering, then in April brought it upstairs to the light in a room not very warm, but where it would not freeze. Previous to this bloom I had another box with two amaryllis bulbs on which were two stalks each with four beautiful red lilies on each stalk, making sixteen lilies in all. And today I see another bulb in another box just blooming for the first time. I brought the box with four bulbs up from the cellar two or three weeks before the larger box. Whenever blooming has ceased I place the plants in a less conspicuous place, but give them good care and keep growing nicely until fall, when I report again, if necessary, and let them dry off some and rest as soon as the leaves begin to turn yellow, giving them no water while in the cellar until in the spring, March or April. My experience with amaryllis is that they are one of the easiest plants to care for which give such rich bloom.

I do not know the name of my amaryllis, but believe it is Johnsoniana. The flower is bright red with white stripes down the center of each petal. Last year I think I had two stalks which had five lilies on each. Are there any pink or yellow varieties? I should think they would be very beautiful, but not as showy as the crimson flowers. I would very much like to see Mrs. R. M. C.'s amaryllis to know if they are any handsomer than mine. I sometimes during the summer give my amaryllis a watering with weak manure water once a week, but have not yet commenced it this season. I started five or six years ago with one small amaryllis bulb and now have nine large enough to bloom besides two or three smaller ones. MRS. M. E. H.  
Yonkers, N. Y.

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Roses.

How have your roses done this season? has been asked me several times. Mine have hardly been up to the usual standard. The unusually dry weather in April did them great injury, I am sure. Vick's Caprice (second season blooming) proved the same as last season, the first to bloom, and was a beauty; but like many other beautiful roses, only bloomed once in a season. Magna Charta did poorly; Gen. Jacqueminot always does well; Dinsmore and Mad. Charles Wood are truly grand; Fisher Holmes is a beauty, as usual; Perle des Blanches and Mrs. J. Laing never were better; Baroness Rothschild hardly up to the standard; Grand Duke Nicholas for two seasons has been a failure; Her Majesty is a beauty, but a nuisance, as it is always covered with mildew. Comte de Paris is a beauty; La France has done well, also Hermosa, Papa Gontier, Bon Silene, Queen's Scarlet and Malmiason. Polyantha roses have done unusually well, especially Little Pet, which has been covered with buds and bloom all season. Moss roses have done very poorly. Climbers bloomed well, but the drouth cut them short. As a whole the blooming season was not as successful as could be desired. Bushes are now, July 7th, making a strong growth, and give good prospects for some fine flowers later in the season.

Wappingers Falls, N. Y. H. C. T.

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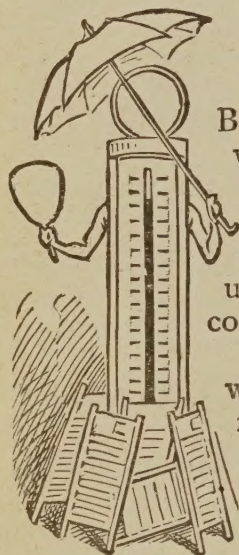
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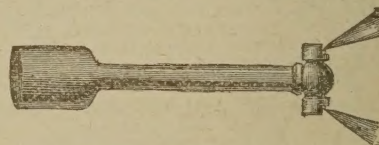
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— O F —

# 56 CHOICE SELECTED BULBS, \$1.50



This is the finest collection ever shown for the money, and includes all of the ten varieties shown on the reverse of this sheet in their natural colors. The Bulbs are especially fine this year. This collection includes many leading novelties, as well as standard sorts, best adapted to both window and outdoor culture. The whole delivered anywhere in the United States on receipt of the price, \$1.50.



### LOOK AT THE DESCRIPTION.

4 Narcissus, assorted best varieties.

2 Ornithogalum Arabicum, "Star of Bethlehem." Easily forced, and grow fine in the open ground. Aromatically perfumed. Tall, white and profuse bloomers.

4 Tulips, best varieties. These dashing, dazzling, showy flowers so brilliant in coloring need no description.

1 Tulip, Gesneriana (new). Tall, large and very showy, enormous in size and luxuriant in growth. Keeps perfect for several weeks.

1 Tulip, Persica (new). Very dwarf, lemon color and brown; a decided novelty.

1 Zephyranthus (Fairy Lily). A very effective and beautiful dwarf bulbous plant, sometimes called Zephyr Flower. Blooms profusely all summer.

1 Lilium Harrisii. This true Easter Lily should be the crowning glory of every home in the land. Blooms in great profusion.

2 Chinese Sacred Lily. Blooms readily packed in a dish of stones filled with water.

4 Anemones, best varieties. A most beautiful flower, even if the roots do look like dried ginger. The delight of all who try them.

1 Chionodoxa, "Glory of the Snow." A magnificent free bloomer, fine for forcing or outdoor culture, being perfectly hardy; each stalk bearing 10 to 15 exquisite blooms.

3 Crocus, Yellow, 3 Crocus, White, 3 Crocus, Blue, 3 Crocus, Striped. This harbinger of the joys of spring is too well known to need praise. They follow the frosts of winter.

3 Freesia. A very popular and charming flower for pot culture. Started early, will bloom by Christmas. The cut flowers will keep good for two weeks.

6 Hyacinths, choicest mixed colors, and 4 Hyacinths, Double White Roman. These are the most beautiful, fragrant and popular of all the bulbs of Holland, equally good for forcing for Christmas or outdoor planting for spring.

6 Jonquils, sweet scented. Perfectly hardy, and will increase rapidly. Fine for forcing.

3 Narcissus, Bulbocodium or Hoop Petticoat. A distinct, graceful and showy plant, fine for winter flowering.

1 Narcissus, Grand Monarque. A magnificent, large white, with yellow cup. Hardy or good for forcing.

All these glorious flowering bulbs delivered anywhere in the United States on receipt of the price, \$1.50.

## JAMES VICK'S SONS, SEEDSMEN, Rochester, N. Y.





PART OF  
**VICK'S**  
 STAR COLLECTION  
 OF WINTER-  
 FLOWERING  
 BULBS.  
 FOR HOUSE CULTURE.  
 PRICE \$1.50 DELIVERED FREE.

- 1 HYACINTH.
- 2 CHIONODOXA.
- 3 ORNITHOGALUM.
- 4 CROCUS.
- 5 TULIP.

SEE OTHER SIDE.

- 6 FREESIA.
- 7 JONQUIL.
- 8 NARCISSUS.
- 9 ANEMONE.
- 10 BULBOCODIUM OR HOOP PETTICOAT NARCISSUS.